#196 wa 86-318-A PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE TO THE ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY: The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section ____405_4_A_2_a__To_permit_a_sign_setback_of_2_5_ft__instead_ of the required 6' setback. 413.2 F to permit a sign of 181.3 sq. ft. instead of the required 100 sq. ft. or less. of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty) (1) Sign Setback: Less than 6' has been in same location for approximately DATE 1-15-8 years and we do not have the space to relocate it further back as it would impede the flow of traffic at the pumps 200 We are enlarging the price sign and the pole by 81.30 sq. ft. $\sqrt{}$ over the maximum allowed 100 sq. ft. for better visibility _____ to the public. We are not increasing the square footage of our Crown Logo. Property is to be posted and advertised as pre ribed by Zoning Regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law For Baltimore County. I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition Contract Purchaser: Legal Owner(s): Crown Stations. Inc. (Type or Print Name) (Type or Print Name) Signature Signature by W. k. Snyder, Vice President Address (Type or Print Name) City and State Signature Attorney for Petitioner J. Gregory Yawman P. O. Box 1168 539-7400 (Type or Print Name) Baltimore, Maryland 21203 P. O. Box 1168 Name, address and phone number of legal owner, contract purchaser or representative to be contacted Baltimo e. MD 21203 Bernard F. Mannion Attorney's Telephone No.: __539-7400 _____7310 Ritchie Hwy. 761-9243 \$\phi\text{RDERED By The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this __21st_____ day

-

ning Commissioner of Baltimore County.

Section 16.08.

including the entire face or faces.

of January 19 86, that the subject matter of this petition be advertised, as required by the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, in two newspapers of general circulation throughout performer County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing be had before the Zoning Companioner of Baltimore County in Room 106, County Office Building in Towson, Baltimore

countries on the 24th day of February 19.86, et 10:45 o'clock

A.2d 483 (1974); Scoville Soxy., Inc. v. Comptroller, 269 Md. 390, 306 A.2d 534 (1973); Height v. State, 225 Md. 251, 170 A.2d 212 (1961). Equally well settled is the principle that statutes are to be construed reasonably with reference to the purpose to be accomplished, Walker v. Montgomery County, 244 Md. 98, 223 A.2d 181 (1966), and in light of the evils or mischief sought to be remedied, Mitchell v. State, 115 Md. 360, 80 A.2d 1020 (1911); in other words, every statutory enactment must be 'considered in its entirety, and in the context of the purpose underlying [its] enactment, Giant of Md. v. State's Attorney, 267 Md. 501 at 509, 298 A.2d 427, at 432

(1973). Of course, a statute should be construed according to the ordinary and natural import of its language, since it is the language of the statute which constitutes the primary source for determining the legislative intent. Gresvenor v. Supervisor of Assess., 271 Md. 232, 315 A.2d 758 (1974); Height v. State, supra. Where there is no ambiguity or obscurity in the language of a statute, there is usually no need to look elsewhere to ascertain the intention of the Legislature. Purifoy v. Merc.-Safe Deposit & Trust, supra. Thus, where statutory language is plain and free from ambiguity and expresses a definite and sensible meaning, courts are not at liberty to disregard the natural import of words with a view towards making the statute express an intention which is different

from its plain meaning. Gatewood v. State, 244 Md. 609, 224 A.2d 677 (1966). On the other hand, as stated in Maguire v. State, 192 Md. 615, 623, 65 A.2d 299, 302 (1949), [a]dherence to the meaning of words does not require or permit isolation of words from their context *** [since] the meaning of the plainest words in a statute may be controlled by the context... In construing statutes, therefore, results that are unreasonable, illogical or inconsistent with common sense should be avoided whenever possibly consistent with the statutory language, with the real legislative intention prevailing over the intention indicated by the literal meaning. B. F. Saul Co. v. West End Park, 250 Md. 707, 246 A.2d 591 (1968); Sanza v. Md. Board of Censors, 245 Md. 319, 226

In applying these principles to the BCZR, particularly Section 413.2, the

A.2d 317 (1967); Height v. State, supra.

IN RE: PETITIONS ZONING VARIANCES BEFORE THE Crown Stations, Inc., ZONING COMMISSIONER Petitioner OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Case Nos. 86-317-A, 86-318-A,

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

* * * * * * * * * * *

and 86-319-A

The Petitioner herein requests variances to permit a sign setback from a street right of way of 2 1/2 feet in Case No. 86-317-A, 2 1/2 feet in Case No. 86-318-A, and 1 foot in Case No. 86-319-A instead of the required 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the permitted 100 square feet in each of the cases, as more particularly described on Petitioner's Exhibits 1 in each case.

Inasmuch as the requested variances and the facts surrounding each request are similar, or identical, the three Petitions referenced above have been combined for the purpose of this Order.

The Petitioner, by Vernon Mannion, its Real Estate Representative, appeared and was represented by Counsel. George Coppinger, a dealer at one of the sites, also appeared on behalf of the Petitioner. Alice LeGrand, representing the Reisterstown-Owings Mills-Glyndon Coordinating Council, and Mary Ginn and Kay Turner, representing The Alliance of Baltimore County Community uls, Inc., appeared in opposition to Case No. 86-319-A. They were not opposed to Case Nos. 86-317-A and 86-318-A.

estimony indicated that the Petitioner is requesting permission to replace existing signs at three locations, i.e., Loch Raven Boulevard and Yakoni Road (Case No. 86-317-A), Reisterstown and Old Court Roads (Case No.

of all of the provisions concerning signs so that the several parts of those

regulations are given their intended effect. Moreover, the relationship

between those various provisions regulating signs must be reconciled as a

whole. See Smith, supra; Bowie Vol. Fire Depart. & Rescue Squad, Inc. v.

Bd. of County Commissioners, 255 Md. 381; Anderson, American Law of Zoning,

ered as one and that is limited to an identification sign for a shopping

center or other interpreted group of stores or commercial buildings. The

introductory language of Section 413.2 does not provide the right to treat all

business signs alike. The language is not all inclusive nor all permissive.

It provides a preamble to the section's intent and conditions any permission

to place a business sign of a particular size in only those business or

industrial zones permitted in subsequent subsections. If all of the subpara-

graphs of Section 413.2 are read and their intent interpreted as a whole, any

such interpretation must conclude that the Baltimore County Council intended

each face of a sign to be counted, except for shopping center identification

signs. Section 413.5.a, BCZR, buttresses this clear and unequivocal reading,

i.e., the size of any sign is computed by determining its surface area

phrase shall be rendered surplusage, superfluous, meaningless or nugatory."

Supervisor v. Southgate Harbor, 279 Md. 586 (1977). If all multiple-faced

busings signs were to be considered as one, the language of Section 413.2.e

would be meaningless, or at the very least, superfluous.

An ordinance should be construed "so that no word, clause, sentence, or

Only Section 413.2.e, BCZR, permits a multiple-faced sign to be consid-

86-318-A, and Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads (Case No. 86-319-A), all zoned B.L. Presently, one pylon bearing an identification (ID) sign with the familiar Crown logo and price signs attached below has existed at each location for many years. At Loch Raven Boulevard, the existing sign is 2 1/2 feet from the street right of way and measures approximately 141 square feet counting both sides. The ID sign measures approximately 104 square feet and the price sign measures 37 square feet. At Reisterstown and Old Court Roads, the existing sign is also located 2 1/2 feet from the street right of way and measures 104 square feet counting both sides. The price signs at this location are placed on a separate pylon. At Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads, the sign is located 1 foot from the right of way and measures approximately 141 square feet, including the ID and price signs.

The Petitioner proposes to replace these signs with a uniform sign bearing the Crown ID on the top of two pylons within which will be a panel identifying the gasoline prices. The size of the sign will be 181.3 square feet, which includes both sides of the ID sign, the price box, and the structure. The only difference among the three signs is that the one at Reisterstown and Old Court Roads will be placed into a 10' x 10' brick fountain.

It is clear that the distances of the signs to the right-of-way lines are nonconforming. At the time the existing signs were erected, the long-standing policy of the Zoning Commissioner was to count all multiple-sided signs as one side enly for the purpose of computing the permitted 100 square feet for other busings signs. Indeed, if this latter policy had not been changed in In Re: C-F Property Partnership, Case No. 85-113-SPHA, November 5, 1984, wherein it was decided by the Zoning Commissioner that this policy was illegal, the Petitioner would be able to erect these signs without the need for variances.

For many years, as indicated, the policy permitted both sides of a multiple-faced business sign to be computed as one for the purpose of determining the size permitted. If a business sign such as the multiplefaced, free-standing sign proposed here was computed to be 98 square feet on each side, past policy would have counted only one side. Section 413.2.f, BCZR, permits other business signs if limited to a total area of 100 square feet, and therefore, a sign such as described above would be permitted as a

matter or right without the need for a variance. Of course, if both sides

were counted for a total of 196 square feet, a variance would be required.

This interpretation does not comport to either the language or the intent of the BCZR. By their inherent nature, policies facilitate and improve the implementation of procedures, but they are equally subject to alteration, modification, or revision in accordance with the authority under which they are initially adopted. They may be used to interpret and/or to construe the law but cannot supplant or contradict the law. Official administrative interpretations of statutes in the form of policy that have long-continued and unvaried application should not be disregarded except for the strongest reason. Hofmeister v. Frank Realty Co., 373 A.2d 273, 281 (1977). As long as the rules and regulations adopted by the administrative official are reasonable and consistent with the statute, they should be applied.

The basic principles of statutory construction were comprehensively set out by the Court of Appeals in State v. Fabritz, 276 Md. 416 (1975), cert. denied, 425 U.S. 942 (1976):

Md. #4 (1972).

Farber's, Inc. v. Comptroller of the Treasury of the State of Maryland, 266

The cardinal rule in the construction of statutes is to effectuate the real and actual intention of the Legislature. Purifoy v. Merc. Safe Del. & Trust, 273 Md. 58, 327

multiple-faced business signs as one should be disregarded for the strongest and most urgent of reasons, i.e., the policy conflicts with the plain meaning of the statute. Smith v. Higinbothom, 187 Md. 115. If after computation, the two sides of the multiple-faced business sign exceed the permitted size as delineated by law, a variance shall be required.

The Petitioner seeks relief from Sections 405.4.A.2.a and 413.2.f. pursuant to Section 307, BCZR.

The requested increase is not excessive, but very reasonable. Indeed, the height of the proposed signs, i.e., 21 feet 11 inches is approximately the same as the existing ones. There will be no practical difference in size between the old and the new signs. In fact, the proposed signage is the same. The increase in the area requested is because the structure is now computed in the area of the sign, not the sign panels only.

There is one exception. The proposed change at Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads will create a problem inasmuch as the existing sign base is only 1 foot from the right of way of Reisterstown Road. The sign's pylon is placed at a 45 degree angle away from the road. Because of this, the sign is not as close to the road as the base. A change to the two pylon structure will negate this, and its close proximity to a major road could, in this Commissioner's view, cause a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of the community. This problem does not exist at the other two locations, and indead, the Protestants recognize this and do not object to those signs.

As for the setbacks, it is a long-standing policy to require the Petition to bring up to current standards all deficient setbacks when requesting other Wariances.

area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning

property. McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the petitioner must meet the following:

- 1. whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2. whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief;
- 3. whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28 (1974).

It is clear from the testimony that if the variances were granted, such use as proposed would not be contrary to the spirit of the BCZR and would not result in substantial detriment to the public good.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, it is clear that a practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship would result if the instant variances were not granted. It has been established that the requirement from which the Petitioner seeks relief would unduly restrict the use of the land due to the special conditions unique to this particular parcel. In addition, the variances requested will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the requested variances should be granted.

merefore, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this 100 day of March, 1986, that the Petitions for Zoning Variances to sign setbacks of 2 1/2 feet from street rights of way instead of the required 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the

- 7 -

he language of Section 413.2 is clear and unambiguous; therefore, the

tanding and customary application of the policy which considers all

- 5 -

- 6 -

PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCES permitted 100 square feet in Case Nos. 86-317-A and 86-318-A be and are hereby 3rd Election District RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCES : BEFCRE THE ZONING COMMISSIONER Beginning NE/S of Reisterstown CRANTED from and after the date of this Order. OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Rd., 152.15' SE of Old Court : Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.) It is FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Zoning Variances to permit a 3rd District ZONING DESCRIPTION sign setback of 1 foot from a street right of way instead of the required CROWN STATIONS, INC., Petitioners Case No. 86-318-A Beginning at Northeast Side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet Southeast of Old Court Road (1507 Reisterstown Road) Crown MD-34 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the permitted I OCATION: ::::::: 100 square feet in Case No. 86-319-A be held SUB CURIA pending further infor-Beginning on the northeast side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet ENTRY OF APPEARANCE Monday, February 24, 1986, at 10:45 a.m. DATE AND TIME: southeast of Old Court Road. Mence the four following courses and distances mation from the Petitioner. PUBLIC HEARING: Room 106, County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, 1. N. 62^O 39' 40" E. 153.0 feet Please enter the appearance of the People's Counse, in the Towson, Maryland 2. S. 41° 07' 46" E. 167.99 feet above-captioned matter. Notices should be sent of any hearing dates The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing: 3. S. 47^o 52' 33" W. 143.07 feet or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary 4. On the northeast side of Reisterstown Road in a northwest direction Baltimore County Petition for Zoning Variances to permit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the required 6 feet and to permit a sign of 181.3 square feet in lieu N. 41° 34' 33" W. 207.08 feet. To the place of beginning. or final Order. Containing 26.884 square feet in the 3rd Election District. Also known as of the permitted 100 square feet. cc: Andrew LaPayowker, Esquire 1507 Reisterstown Road. Mrs. Mary Ginn Phyllis Cole Friedman Mrs. Alice LeGrand People's Counsel for Baltimore County People's Counsel umenna Peter Max Zimmerman Deputy People's Counsel Room 223, Court House Being the property of <u>Crown Stations, Inc.</u>, as shown on plat plan filed with the Zoning Office. Towson, MD 21204 494-2188 In the event that this Petition(s) is granted, a building permit may be issued within the thirty (30) day appeal period. The Zoning Commissioner will, however, entertain any request for a stay of the issuance of said permit during this period for good cause shown. Such request must be received in writing by the date of the I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 31st day of January, 1986, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to J. Gregory Yawman, hearing set above or made at the hearing. Esquire, P. O. Box 1168, Baltimore, MD 21203, Attorney for Petitioner. BY ORDER OF ARNOLD JABLON ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Peter Max Zirmerman -8-January 24, 1986 J. Gregory Ya. an, Esquire Post Office Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203 CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION VARIANCES

3rd Election District BALTIMORE COUNTY
OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3353 _____ BALTIMORE COUPTY OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING LOCATION: Beginning at North-east Side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet Southerst of Old Court Road (1507 Reisterst twa Road) DATE AND TIME: Monday, Febru-ary 24, 1986. ar 2046. TOWSON, MD., February 6 County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was ary 24, 1986, at 10:45 a.m.
PUBLIC HEARING: Room 106,
County Office Building, 111 W
Chesapeake Avenue, Towson,
Maryland NOTICE OF HEARING ARNOLD JABLON ZONING COMMISSIONER JEAN M. H. JUNG DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper printed Your petition has been received and accepted for filing this to day of January, 1986. RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCES
Beg. @ NE/S of Reisterstown Rd., 152.15' SE
of Old Court Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.)
3rd Election District
Crown Stations, Inc. - Petitioner
Case No. 86-318-A The Zoning Commissioner of Balti-more County, by sutherity of the Zon-ing Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing: Petition for Zoning Variances to per-mit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the required 6 feet and research and published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., appearing on February 18, 1986 February 6 19 86 mit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the requised 6 feet and to permit a sign of 181.3 square feet in lieu of the permitted 100 aquare feet,

Being the property of Crown Stations, Inc., or shown on plet plan filed with the Zousing Office.

In the event that this Petition(s) is granted, a familding permit may be insued within the thirty (30) day appeal period. The Zousing sCommissioner will, however, sententials may request for a stay of the insuance of said permit during this period for good cause shown. Such request must be received in writing by the date of the hearing set above or rande at the hearing.

By Order Of J. Gregory Yawman, Esquire Post Office Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203 THE JEFFERSONIAN, Zoning Commissioner Re: Petition for Zoning Variances

Beg. @ NE/S of Reisterstown Rd., 152.15 SE

of Old Court Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.) - 201 Election District

Crown Stations, Inc. - Petitioner

Case No. 86-318-A Monday, February 24, 1986 18 Venetali James E. Dyer Petitioner Crown Stations, Inc. Chairman, Zoning Mans Advisory Committee PLACE: Room 106, County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake Attorney J. Gregory Yasman, Esquire Publisher Avenue, Towson, Maryland Per or mode at tog meaning.
By Order Of
ARNOLD JABLON,
Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County
Feb. 6. Dear Mr. Yawmani Cost of Advertising 24.75 This is to advise you that \$57.49 is due for advertising and posting of the above property. This fee must be paid before an NEWSPAPERS OF MARTLAND, INC.

2 STATE SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986

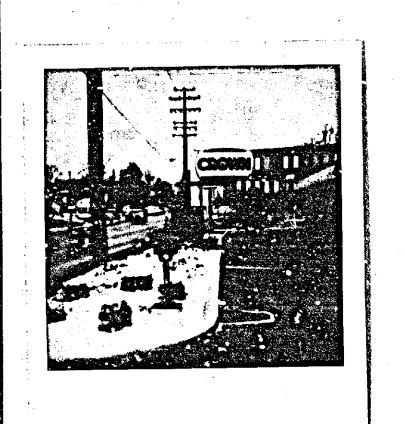
ENDER SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986

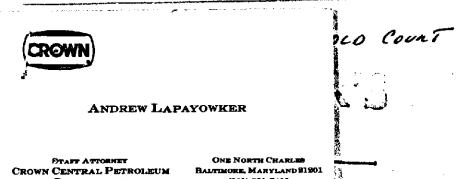
ENDER SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986 THIS FEE MUST BE PAID AND THE ZONING SIGN AND POST RETURNED ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING OR THE ORDER SHALL NOT BE ISSUED. Y that the annexed Req.# L84192 P.O.# 73295 Do <u>not</u> remove sign from property from the time it is placed by this office until the day of the hearing itself. 25 1) successive weeks/days previous No. 012374 BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND No. 018506 re County, Maryland, and remit of February 1986 in the BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION
MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT inty Times, a daily newspaper published CERTIFICATE OF POSTING 01-615-000 in Westminster, Carroll County, Maryland. vn News, a weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Maryland. 100.00 Times, a weekly newspaper published Date of Posting Fib-5-1986 in Baltimore County, Maryland. Warrance NITY NEWSPAPERS OF MARYLAND, INC. Re (10- 16- 317-11 (86-318-11) 186-319-A Positioner: Crown Stations INC.

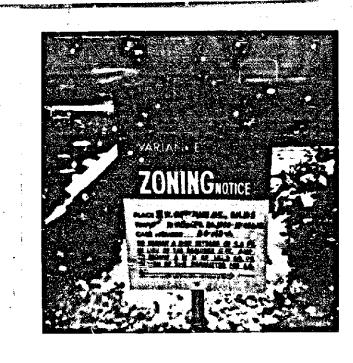
Location of property: NE 15 of Resolution Road 157 15

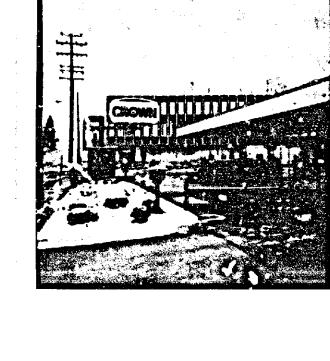
SE M Old Court Flat (1507 Rusters Town Boal) Variance #1196 Rustons on Rd. B B B B B B B B B B + * * * 1384 B ta 325 E F ocation of Signe NE ville of Resolution IP and VALIDATION OR SIGNATURE OF CASHIEL

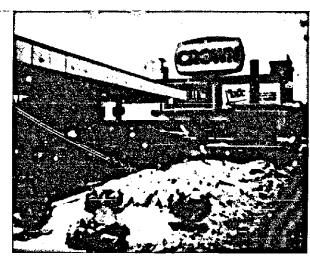
WR 23 1987

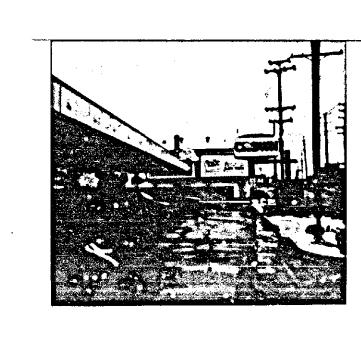












BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Arnold Jablen TO Zoning Commissioner January 31, 1986 Norman E. Gerber, AICP, Director FROM Office of Planning and Zoning

SURJECT Zoning Petitions No. 86-317-A, 86-318-A and 86-319-A

If the sign is to be placed on the existing base, this office is not concerned with the setback variance; if a new base is to be poured, it could and should be set further back from the property line. As to the variance to sign size, this office is opposed. If

better visibility to the phulic satisfies the "unreasonable hardship"

criterion, then perhaps regulations governing sign size are superfluous.

NEG:JGH:slm

BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING PLANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 29, 1986

COUNTY OFFICE BLDG. 111 W. Chesapeake Ave. Towson, Maryland 21204

Bureau of

Industrial Development

Engineering

J. Gregory Yawman, Esquire P. O. Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203

> RE: Item No. 196 - Case No. 86-318-A Petitioner - Crown Stations, Inc. Variance Petition

Dear Mr. Yawman:

Department of The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee has reviewed the plans submitted with the above-referenced petition. The following comments are State Roads Commissi not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action re-Bureau of Fire Prevention quested, but to assure that all parties are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the development plans that may have a bearing Health Department on this case. The Director of Planning may file a written report with the Zoning Commissioner with recommendations as to the suitability of Project Planning Building Department the requested zoning. Board of Education

Enclosed are all comments submitted from the members of the Committee at this time that offer or request information on your petition. If similar comments from the remaining members are received, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on the date of the enclosed filing certificate and a hearing scheduled accordingly.

> Very truly yours, Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

> > December 17, 1985

Zoning Agenda: Meeting of December 3, 1985

The state of the s

JED:nr Enclosures



Maryland Department of Transportation

December 6, 1985

Re: Baltimore County

Item #196

Mr. A. Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

Att: James Dyer

Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc. Location: NE/S Reisterstown Road (Route 140) 152.15' SE of Old Court Road Existing Zoning: B.L. CSA Proposed Zoning: Var. to permit a sign setback of 2.5' instead of the required 6' setback and to permit a sign of 181.3 sq. ft. instead of the required 100 sq. ft or less Acres: 26,834 sq. ft.

Dear Mr. Dyer:

On review of the submittal for sign variance for Outdoor Advertising, the site plan has been forwarded to the State Highway Administration Beautification Section, C/O Morris Stein (659-1642) for all comments relative to

Very truly yours,

Charle Le Charles Lee, Chief Bureau of Engr. Access Permits

District 3rd

by: George Wittman

CL-GW;es

cc: J. Ogle M. Stein w/att.

> My telephone number is 301-659-1350 Teletypewriter for Impaired Hearing or Speech 383-7555 Baltimore Metro — 565-0451 D.C. Metro — 1-800-492-5062 Statewide Toll Free P.O. Box 717 / 707 North Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland 21203 - 0717

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

JANUARY 28, 1986

Re: Zoning Advisory Meeting of DECEMERS, 1985

Item + 196

Property Owner: CKOWN STATIONS, INC.

Location: NE/S REISTERSTOWN RD .152,15

SE OF OLD COURT ROPD The Division of Current Planning and Development has reviewed the subject petition and offers the following comments. The items checked below are (X)There are no site planning factors requiring comment.

)A County Review Group Meeting is required.
)A County Review Group meeting was held and the minutes will be forward by the Eureau of Public Services.

()This site is part of a larger tract; therfore it is defined as a subdivision. The plan must show the entire tract.)A record plat will be required and must be recorded prior to issuance of a building permit.)The access is not satisfactory.)The circulation on this site is not satisfactory.)The parking arrangement is not satisfactory. Parking calculations must be shown on the plan.)This property contains soils which are defined as wetlands, and development on these soils is prohibited.

Construction in or alteration of the floodplain is prohibited under the provisions of Section 22-98 of the Development Regulations.

()Development of this site may constitute a potential conflict with the Baltimore County Master Plan.

The amended Development Plan was approved by the Planning Board On
)Landscaping: Must comply with daltimore County Landscape Manual.
)The property is located in a deficient service area as defined by Bill 178-79. No building permit may be issued until a Reserve Capacity Use Certificate has been issued. The deficient service is

The property is located in a trarric area controlled by a "D" level intersection as defined by Sill 178-79, and as conditions change traffic capacity may become more limited. The Basic Services Areas are re-evaluated annually by the County Council.)Additional comments:

Eugene A. Bober Chief, Current Planning and Development BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING
TON'SON, MARYLAND 21234
494-3550

STEPHEN E. COLLINS DIRECTOR

January 7, 1986

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

> -ZAC- Meeting of November 3, 1985 Item No. Property Owner: Location: Existing Zoning:

Acres: District:

Proposed Zoning:

Dear Mr. Jablon:

MSF/bld

The department of Traffic Engineering has no comments for items number 190, 191, 193, 194, 195, (196) 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205,

BALTIMORE COUNTY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-2586
494-4500

Towson, Maryland 21204

Item No.: 196

PAUL H. REINCKE CHIEF

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning Baltimore County Office Building

Attention: Nick Commodari, Chairman Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

RE: Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc.

Location: NE/S Reisterstown Road, 152.15' SE of Old Court Road

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below marked with an "X" are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

() 1. Fire hydrants for the referenced property are required and shall be located at intervals or _____ feet along an approved road in accordance with Baltimore County Standards as published by the Department of Public Works.

() 2. A second means of vehicle access is required for the site.

() 3. The vehicle dead end condition shown at _____

EXCEEDS the maximum allowed by the Fire Department.

. () 4. The site shall be made to comply with all applicable parts of the Fire Prevention Code prior to occupancy or beginning of operation.

. () 5. The buildings and structures existing or proposed on the site shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 101 "Life Safety Code", 1976 edition prior to occupancy.

() 6. Site plans are approved, as drawn.

(X) 7. The Fire Prevention Bureau has no commence;" at this time.

REVIEWER: Catt Joseph Kelly 12-15-55 Approved:

Planting Group

Special Towns Special Inspection Division

BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS & LICENSES
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3610

December 23, 1985

TED ZALESKI, JR.

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Mr. Jablons Comments on Item # 196 Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting are as follows:

Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc. NE/S Reisterstown Road, 152.15' SE of Old Court Road

All structures shall conform to the Baltimore County Building Code as adopted by Council Bill #17-85, the Maryland Code for the Handicapped and Aged (A.M.S.I. #117-1 - 1980) and other applicable Codes and Standards. (B) A building and other miscellaneous pensits shall be required before the start of any construction.

C. Residentuals Two sets of construction drawings are required to file a parmit application. The seal of a registered in Maryland Architect or Engineer is/is not required on plans and technical data.

Commercial: Three sets of construction drawings sealed and signed by a registered in Maryland Architect or Engineer shall be required to file with a permit application. Reproduced seals are not acceptable.

E. All Use Groups except R-L Single Family Detached Dwellings require a minimum of 1 hour fire rating for exterior walls closer than 6'-O to an interior lot line. R-L Use Groups require a one hour wall if closer than 3'-O to an interior lot line. Any wall built on an interior lot line shall require a fire or party wall. See Table LO1, Section 1407, Section 1406.2 and Table 1402. No openings are permitted in an exterior wall within 3'-O of an interior lot line.

F. The structure does not appear to comply with Table 505 for permissable height/area. Reply to the requested variance by this office cannot be considered until the necessary data pertaining to height/area and construction type is provided. See Table 401 and 505 and have your Architect/Engineer contact this department. G. The requested variance appears to conflict with Section(s) _____, of the Baltimore County Building Code.

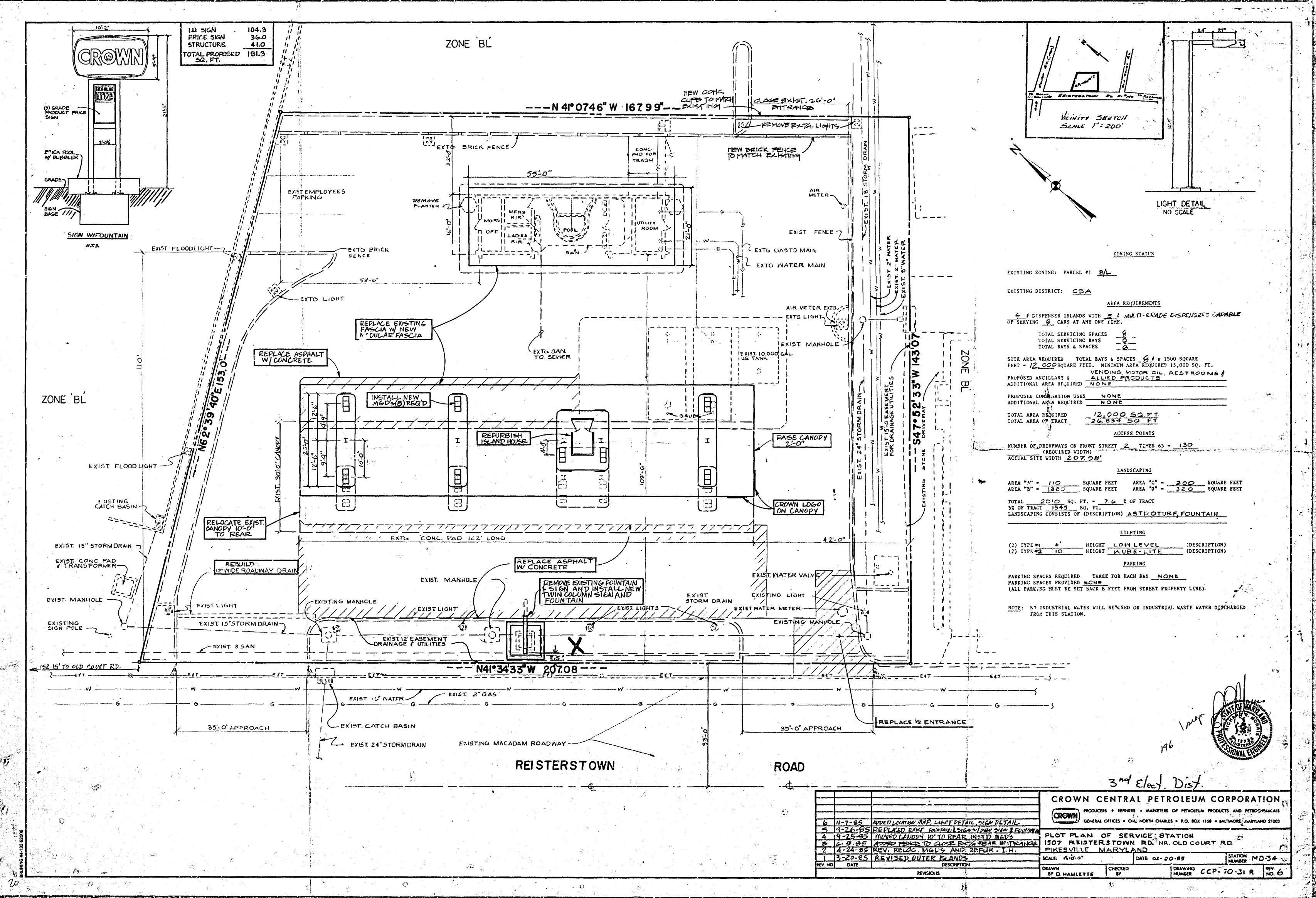
H. When filing for a required Change of Use/Compancy Permit, an alteration permit application shall also be filed along with three sets of acceptable construction plans indicating how the existing structure is to be altered in order to comply with the Code requirements for the new use. Maryland Architectural or Engineer seals are usually required. The change of Use Groupe are from Use to Use . See Section 312 of the Building Code.

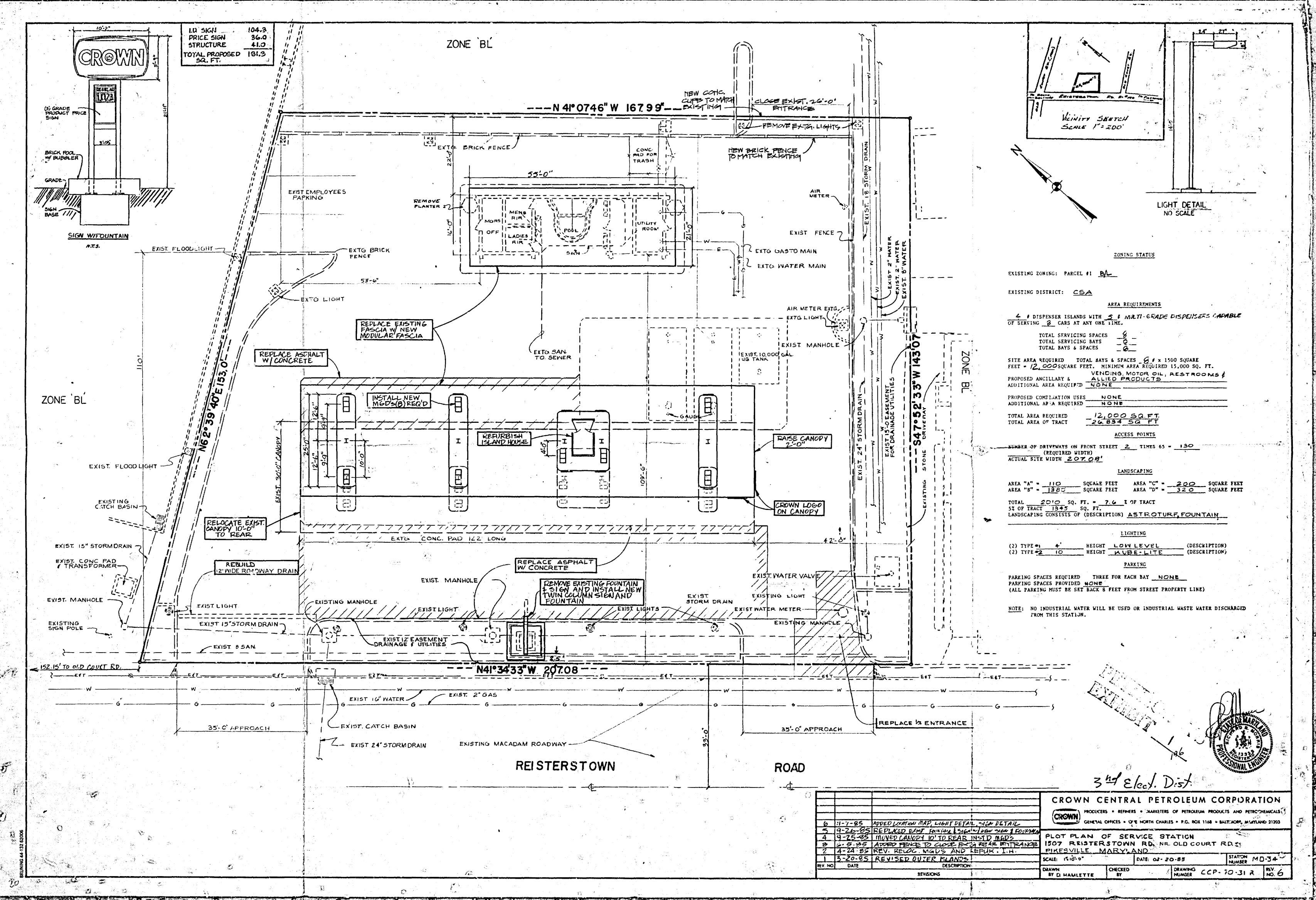
I. The proposed project appears to be located in a Flood Plain, Tidal/Riverine. Please see the attached copy of Section 516.0 of the Building Code as adopted by Bill #17-85. Sits plans shall show the correct elevations above see level for the lot and the finish floor levels including basement.

Comments: Separate permits are required for the various improvements.

K. These abbreviated comments reflect only on the information provided by the drawings submitted to the Office of Planning at 2 Zoning and are not intended to be construed as the full extent of any permit. If desired the applicant may obtain additional information by visiting Rose 123 of the lentry Tice full ding at 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, Haryland ZiZOL.

BY: C. E. Burnham, Chief Building Plans Review





#196 wa 86-318-A PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE TO THE ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY: The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section ____405_4_A_2_a__To_permit_a_sign_setback_of_2_5_ft__instead_ of the required 6' setback. 413.2 F to permit a sign of 181.3 sq. ft. instead of the required 100 sq. ft. or less. of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty) (1) Sign Setback: Less than 6' has been in same location for approximately DATE 1-15-8 years and we do not have the space to relocate it further back as it would impede the flow of traffic at the pumps 200 We are enlarging the price sign and the pole by 81.30 sq. ft. $\sqrt{}$ over the maximum allowed 100 sq. ft. for better visibility _____ to the public. We are not increasing the square footage of our Crown Logo. Property is to be posted and advertised as pre ribed by Zoning Regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law For Baltimore County. I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition Contract Purchaser: Legal Owner(s): Crown Stations. Inc. (Type or Print Name) (Type or Print Name) Signature Signature by W. k. Snyder, Vice President Address (Type or Print Name) City and State Signature Attorney for Petitioner J. Gregory Yawman P. O. Box 1168 539-7400 (Type or Print Name) Baltimore, Maryland 21203 P. O. Box 1168 Name, address and phone number of legal owner, contract purchaser or representative to be contacted Baltimo e. MD 21203 Bernard F. Mannion Attorney's Telephone No.: __539-7400 _____7310 Ritchie Hwy. 761-9243 \$\phi\text{RDERED By The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this __21st_____ day

-

ning Commissioner of Baltimore County.

Section 16.08.

including the entire face or faces.

of January 19 86, that the subject matter of this petition be advertised, as required by the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, in two newspapers of general circulation throughout performer County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing be had before the Zoning Companioner of Baltimore County in Room 106, County Office Building in Towson, Baltimore

countries on the 24th day of February 19.86, et 10:45 o'clock

A.2d 483 (1974); Scoville Soxy., Inc. v. Comptroller, 269 Md. 390, 306 A.2d 534 (1973); Height v. State, 225 Md. 251, 170 A.2d 212 (1961). Equally well settled is the principle that statutes are to be construed reasonably with reference to the purpose to be accomplished, Walker v. Montgomery County, 244 Md. 98, 223 A.2d 181 (1966), and in light of the evils or mischief sought to be remedied, Mitchell v. State, 115 Md. 360, 80 A.2d 1020 (1911); in other words, every statutory enactment must be 'considered in its entirety, and in the context of the purpose underlying [its] enactment, Giant of Md. v. State's Attorney, 267 Md. 501 at 509, 298 A.2d 427, at 432

(1973). Of course, a statute should be construed according to the ordinary and natural import of its language, since it is the language of the statute which constitutes the primary source for determining the legislative intent. Gresvenor v. Supervisor of Assess., 271 Md. 232, 315 A.2d 758 (1974); Height v. State, supra. Where there is no ambiguity or obscurity in the language of a statute, there is usually no need to look elsewhere to ascertain the intention of the Legislature. Purifoy v. Merc.-Safe Deposit & Trust, supra. Thus, where statutory language is plain and free from ambiguity and expresses a definite and sensible meaning, courts are not at liberty to disregard the natural import of words with a view towards making the statute express an intention which is different

from its plain meaning. Gatewood v. State, 244 Md. 609, 224 A.2d 677 (1966). On the other hand, as stated in Maguire v. State, 192 Md. 615, 623, 65 A.2d 299, 302 (1949), [a]dherence to the meaning of words does not require or permit isolation of words from their context *** [since] the meaning of the plainest words in a statute may be controlled by the context... In construing statutes, therefore, results that are unreasonable, illogical or inconsistent with common sense should be avoided whenever possibly consistent with the statutory language, with the real legislative intention prevailing over the intention indicated by the literal meaning. B. F. Saul Co. v. West End Park, 250 Md. 707, 246 A.2d 591 (1968); Sanza v. Md. Board of Censors, 245 Md. 319, 226

In applying these principles to the BCZR, particularly Section 413.2, the

A.2d 317 (1967); Height v. State, supra.

IN RE: PETITIONS ZONING VARIANCES BEFORE THE Crown Stations, Inc., ZONING COMMISSIONER Petitioner OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Case Nos. 86-317-A, 86-318-A,

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

* * * * * * * * * * *

and 86-319-A

The Petitioner herein requests variances to permit a sign setback from a street right of way of 2 1/2 feet in Case No. 86-317-A, 2 1/2 feet in Case No. 86-318-A, and 1 foot in Case No. 86-319-A instead of the required 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the permitted 100 square feet in each of the cases, as more particularly described on Petitioner's Exhibits 1 in each case.

Inasmuch as the requested variances and the facts surrounding each request are similar, or identical, the three Petitions referenced above have been combined for the purpose of this Order.

The Petitioner, by Vernon Mannion, its Real Estate Representative, appeared and was represented by Counsel. George Coppinger, a dealer at one of the sites, also appeared on behalf of the Petitioner. Alice LeGrand, representing the Reisterstown-Owings Mills-Glyndon Coordinating Council, and Mary Ginn and Kay Turner, representing The Alliance of Baltimore County Community uls, Inc., appeared in opposition to Case No. 86-319-A. They were not opposed to Case Nos. 86-317-A and 86-318-A.

estimony indicated that the Petitioner is requesting permission to replace existing signs at three locations, i.e., Loch Raven Boulevard and Yakoni Road (Case No. 86-317-A), Reisterstown and Old Court Roads (Case No.

of all of the provisions concerning signs so that the several parts of those

regulations are given their intended effect. Moreover, the relationship

between those various provisions regulating signs must be reconciled as a

whole. See Smith, supra; Bowie Vol. Fire Depart. & Rescue Squad, Inc. v.

Bd. of County Commissioners, 255 Md. 381; Anderson, American Law of Zoning,

ered as one and that is limited to an identification sign for a shopping

center or other interpreted group of stores or commercial buildings. The

introductory language of Section 413.2 does not provide the right to treat all

business signs alike. The language is not all inclusive nor all permissive.

It provides a preamble to the section's intent and conditions any permission

to place a business sign of a particular size in only those business or

industrial zones permitted in subsequent subsections. If all of the subpara-

graphs of Section 413.2 are read and their intent interpreted as a whole, any

such interpretation must conclude that the Baltimore County Council intended

each face of a sign to be counted, except for shopping center identification

signs. Section 413.5.a, BCZR, buttresses this clear and unequivocal reading,

i.e., the size of any sign is computed by determining its surface area

phrase shall be rendered surplusage, superfluous, meaningless or nugatory."

Supervisor v. Southgate Harbor, 279 Md. 586 (1977). If all multiple-faced

busings signs were to be considered as one, the language of Section 413.2.e

would be meaningless, or at the very least, superfluous.

An ordinance should be construed "so that no word, clause, sentence, or

Only Section 413.2.e, BCZR, permits a multiple-faced sign to be consid-

86-318-A, and Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads (Case No. 86-319-A), all zoned B.L. Presently, one pylon bearing an identification (ID) sign with the familiar Crown logo and price signs attached below has existed at each location for many years. At Loch Raven Boulevard, the existing sign is 2 1/2 feet from the street right of way and measures approximately 141 square feet counting both sides. The ID sign measures approximately 104 square feet and the price sign measures 37 square feet. At Reisterstown and Old Court Roads, the existing sign is also located 2 1/2 feet from the street right of way and measures 104 square feet counting both sides. The price signs at this location are placed on a separate pylon. At Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads, the sign is located 1 foot from the right of way and measures approximately 141 square feet, including the ID and price signs.

The Petitioner proposes to replace these signs with a uniform sign bearing the Crown ID on the top of two pylons within which will be a panel identifying the gasoline prices. The size of the sign will be 181.3 square feet, which includes both sides of the ID sign, the price box, and the structure. The only difference among the three signs is that the one at Reisterstown and Old Court Roads will be placed into a 10' x 10' brick fountain.

It is clear that the distances of the signs to the right-of-way lines are nonconforming. At the time the existing signs were erected, the long-standing policy of the Zoning Commissioner was to count all multiple-sided signs as one side enly for the purpose of computing the permitted 100 square feet for other busings signs. Indeed, if this latter policy had not been changed in In Re: C-F Property Partnership, Case No. 85-113-SPHA, November 5, 1984, wherein it was decided by the Zoning Commissioner that this policy was illegal, the Petitioner would be able to erect these signs without the need for variances.

For many years, as indicated, the policy permitted both sides of a multiple-faced business sign to be computed as one for the purpose of determining the size permitted. If a business sign such as the multiplefaced, free-standing sign proposed here was computed to be 98 square feet on each side, past policy would have counted only one side. Section 413.2.f, BCZR, permits other business signs if limited to a total area of 100 square feet, and therefore, a sign such as described above would be permitted as a

matter or right without the need for a variance. Of course, if both sides

were counted for a total of 196 square feet, a variance would be required.

This interpretation does not comport to either the language or the intent of the BCZR. By their inherent nature, policies facilitate and improve the implementation of procedures, but they are equally subject to alteration, modification, or revision in accordance with the authority under which they are initially adopted. They may be used to interpret and/or to construe the law but cannot supplant or contradict the law. Official administrative interpretations of statutes in the form of policy that have long-continued and unvaried application should not be disregarded except for the strongest reason. Hofmeister v. Frank Realty Co., 373 A.2d 273, 281 (1977). As long as the rules and regulations adopted by the administrative official are reasonable and consistent with the statute, they should be applied.

The basic principles of statutory construction were comprehensively set out by the Court of Appeals in State v. Fabritz, 276 Md. 416 (1975), cert. denied, 425 U.S. 942 (1976):

Md. #4 (1972).

Farber's, Inc. v. Comptroller of the Treasury of the State of Maryland, 266

The cardinal rule in the construction of statutes is to effectuate the real and actual intention of the Legislature. Purifoy v. Merc. Safe Del. & Trust, 273 Md. 58, 327

multiple-faced business signs as one should be disregarded for the strongest and most urgent of reasons, i.e., the policy conflicts with the plain meaning of the statute. Smith v. Higinbothom, 187 Md. 115. If after computation, the two sides of the multiple-faced business sign exceed the permitted size as delineated by law, a variance shall be required.

The Petitioner seeks relief from Sections 405.4.A.2.a and 413.2.f. pursuant to Section 307, BCZR.

The requested increase is not excessive, but very reasonable. Indeed, the height of the proposed signs, i.e., 21 feet 11 inches is approximately the same as the existing ones. There will be no practical difference in size between the old and the new signs. In fact, the proposed signage is the same. The increase in the area requested is because the structure is now computed in the area of the sign, not the sign panels only.

There is one exception. The proposed change at Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads will create a problem inasmuch as the existing sign base is only 1 foot from the right of way of Reisterstown Road. The sign's pylon is placed at a 45 degree angle away from the road. Because of this, the sign is not as close to the road as the base. A change to the two pylon structure will negate this, and its close proximity to a major road could, in this Commissioner's view, cause a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of the community. This problem does not exist at the other two locations, and indead, the Protestants recognize this and do not object to those signs.

As for the setbacks, it is a long-standing policy to require the Petition to bring up to current standards all deficient setbacks when requesting other Wariances.

area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning

property. McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the petitioner must meet the following:

- 1. whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2. whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief;
- 3. whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28 (1974).

It is clear from the testimony that if the variances were granted, such use as proposed would not be contrary to the spirit of the BCZR and would not result in substantial detriment to the public good.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, it is clear that a practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship would result if the instant variances were not granted. It has been established that the requirement from which the Petitioner seeks relief would unduly restrict the use of the land due to the special conditions unique to this particular parcel. In addition, the variances requested will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the requested variances should be granted.

merefore, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this 100 day of March, 1986, that the Petitions for Zoning Variances to sign setbacks of 2 1/2 feet from street rights of way instead of the required 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the

- 7 -

he language of Section 413.2 is clear and unambiguous; therefore, the

tanding and customary application of the policy which considers all

- 5 -

- 6 -

PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCES permitted 100 square feet in Case Nos. 86-317-A and 86-318-A be and are hereby 3rd Election District RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCES : BEFCRE THE ZONING COMMISSIONER Beginning NE/S of Reisterstown CRANTED from and after the date of this Order. OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Rd., 152.15' SE of Old Court : Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.) It is FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Zoning Variances to permit a 3rd District ZONING DESCRIPTION sign setback of 1 foot from a street right of way instead of the required CROWN STATIONS, INC., Petitioners Case No. 86-318-A Beginning at Northeast Side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet Southeast of Old Court Road (1507 Reisterstown Road) Crown MD-34 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the permitted I OCATION: ::::::: 100 square feet in Case No. 86-319-A be held SUB CURIA pending further infor-Beginning on the northeast side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet ENTRY OF APPEARANCE Monday, February 24, 1986, at 10:45 a.m. DATE AND TIME: southeast of Old Court Road. Mence the four following courses and distances mation from the Petitioner. PUBLIC HEARING: Room 106, County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, 1. N. 62^O 39' 40" E. 153.0 feet Please enter the appearance of the People's Counse, in the Towson, Maryland 2. S. 41° 07' 46" E. 167.99 feet above-captioned matter. Notices should be sent of any hearing dates The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing: 3. S. 47^o 52' 33" W. 143.07 feet or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary 4. On the northeast side of Reisterstown Road in a northwest direction Baltimore County Petition for Zoning Variances to permit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the required 6 feet and to permit a sign of 181.3 square feet in lieu N. 41° 34' 33" W. 207.08 feet. To the place of beginning. or final Order. Containing 26.884 square feet in the 3rd Election District. Also known as of the permitted 100 square feet. cc: Andrew LaPayowker, Esquire 1507 Reisterstown Road. Mrs. Mary Ginn Phyllis Cole Friedman Mrs. Alice LeGrand People's Counsel for Baltimore County People's Counsel umenna Peter Max Zimmerman Deputy People's Counsel Room 223, Court House Being the property of <u>Crown Stations, Inc.</u>, as shown on plat plan filed with the Zoning Office. Towson, MD 21204 494-2188 In the event that this Petition(s) is granted, a building permit may be issued within the thirty (30) day appeal period. The Zoning Commissioner will, however, entertain any request for a stay of the issuance of said permit during this period for good cause shown. Such request must be received in writing by the date of the I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 31st day of January, 1986, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to J. Gregory Yawman, hearing set above or made at the hearing. Esquire, P. O. Box 1168, Baltimore, MD 21203, Attorney for Petitioner. BY ORDER OF ARNOLD JABLON ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Peter Max Zirmerman -8-January 24, 1986 J. Gregory Ya. an, Esquire Post Office Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203 CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION VARIANCES

3rd Election District BALTIMORE COUNTY
OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3353 _____ BALTIMORE COUPTY OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING LOCATION: Beginning at North-east Side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet Southerst of Old Court Road (1507 Reisterst twa Road) DATE AND TIME: Monday, Febru-ary 24, 1986. ar 2046. TOWSON, MD., February 6 County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was ary 24, 1986, at 10:45 a.m.
PUBLIC HEARING: Room 106,
County Office Building, 111 W
Chesapeake Avenue, Towson,
Maryland NOTICE OF HEARING ARNOLD JABLON ZONING COMMISSIONER JEAN M. H. JUNG DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper printed Your petition has been received and accepted for filing this to day of January, 1986. RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCES
Beg. @ NE/S of Reisterstown Rd., 152.15' SE
of Old Court Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.)
3rd Election District
Crown Stations, Inc. - Petitioner
Case No. 86-318-A The Zoning Commissioner of Balti-more County, by sutherity of the Zon-ing Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing: Petition for Zoning Variances to per-mit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the required 6 feet and research and published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., appearing on February 18, 1986 February 6 19 86 mit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the requised 6 feet and to permit a sign of 181.3 square feet in lieu of the permitted 100 aquare feet,

Being the property of Crown Stations, Inc., or shown on plet plan filed with the Zousing Office.

In the event that this Petition(s) is granted, a familding permit may be insued within the thirty (30) day appeal period. The Zousing sCommissioner will, however, sententials may request for a stay of the insuance of said permit during this period for good cause shown. Such request must be received in writing by the date of the hearing set above or rande at the hearing.

By Order Of J. Gregory Yawman, Esquire Post Office Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203 THE JEFFERSONIAN, Zoning Commissioner Re: Petition for Zoning Variances

Beg. @ NE/S of Reisterstown Rd., 152.15 SE

of Old Court Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.) - 201 Election District

Crown Stations, Inc. - Petitioner

Case No. 86-318-A Monday, February 24, 1986 18 Venetali James E. Dyer Petitioner Crown Stations, Inc. Chairman, Zoning Mans Advisory Committee PLACE: Room 106, County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake Attorney J. Gregory Yasman, Esquire Publisher Avenue, Towson, Maryland Per or mode at tog meaning.
By Order Of
ARNOLD JABLON,
Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County
Feb. 6. Dear Mr. Yawmani Cost of Advertising 24.75 This is to advise you that \$57.49 is due for advertising and posting of the above property. This fee must be paid before an NEWSPAPERS OF MARTLAND, INC.

2 STATE SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986

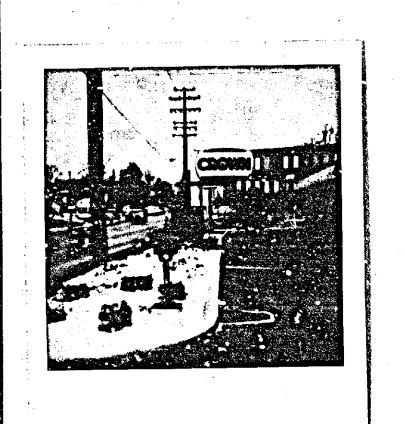
ENDER SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986

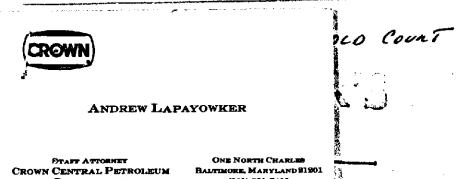
ENDER SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986 THIS FEE MUST BE PAID AND THE ZONING SIGN AND POST RETURNED ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING OR THE ORDER SHALL NOT BE ISSUED. Y that the annexed Req.# L84192 P.O.# 73295 Do <u>not</u> remove sign from property from the time it is placed by this office until the day of the hearing itself. 25 1) successive weeks/days previous No. 012374 BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND No. 018506 re County, Maryland, and remit of February 1986 in the BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION
MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT inty Times, a daily newspaper published CERTIFICATE OF POSTING 01-615-000 in Westminster, Carroll County, Maryland. vn News, a weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Maryland. 100.00 Times, a weekly newspaper published Date of Posting Fib-5-1986 in Baltimore County, Maryland. Warrance NITY NEWSPAPERS OF MARYLAND, INC. Re (10- 16- 317-11 (86-318-11) 186-319-A Positioner: Crown Stations INC.

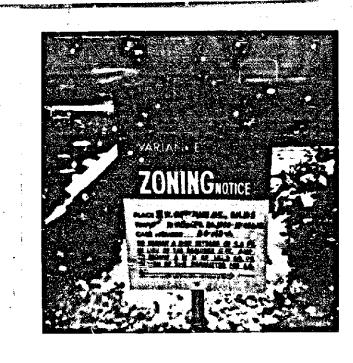
Location of property: NE 15 of Resolution Road 157 15

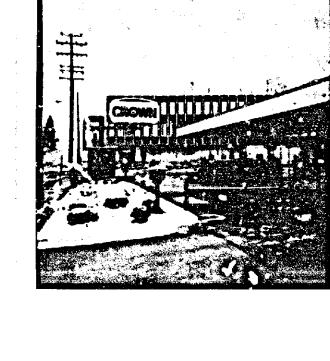
SE M Old Court Flat (1507 Rusters Town Boal) Variance #1196 Rustons on Rd. B B B B B B B B B B + * * * 1384 B ta 325 E F ocation of Signe NE ville of Resolution IP and VALIDATION OR SIGNATURE OF CASHIEL

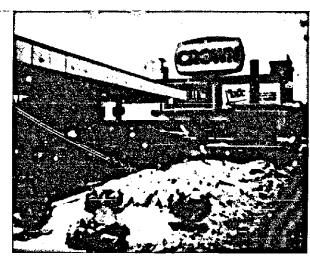
WR 23 1987

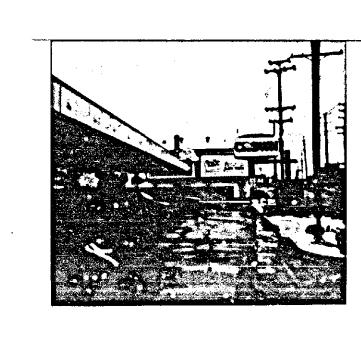












BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Arnold Jablen TO Zoning Commissioner January 31, 1986 Norman E. Gerber, AICP, Director FROM Office of Planning and Zoning

SURJECT Zoning Petitions No. 86-317-A, 86-318-A and 86-319-A

If the sign is to be placed on the existing base, this office is not concerned with the setback variance; if a new base is to be poured, it could and should be set further back from the property line. As to the variance to sign size, this office is opposed. If

better visibility to the phulic satisfies the "unreasonable hardship"

criterion, then perhaps regulations governing sign size are superfluous.

NEG:JGH:slm

BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING PLANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 29, 1986

COUNTY OFFICE BLDG. 111 W. Chesapeake Ave. Towson, Maryland 21204

Bureau of

Industrial Development

Engineering

J. Gregory Yawman, Esquire P. O. Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203

> RE: Item No. 196 - Case No. 86-318-A Petitioner - Crown Stations, Inc. Variance Petition

Dear Mr. Yawman:

Department of The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee has reviewed the plans submitted with the above-referenced petition. The following comments are State Roads Commissi not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action re-Bureau of Fire Prevention quested, but to assure that all parties are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the development plans that may have a bearing Health Department on this case. The Director of Planning may file a written report with the Zoning Commissioner with recommendations as to the suitability of Project Planning Building Department the requested zoning. Board of Education

Enclosed are all comments submitted from the members of the Committee at this time that offer or request information on your petition. If similar comments from the remaining members are received, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on the date of the enclosed filing certificate and a hearing scheduled accordingly.

> Very truly yours, Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

> > December 17, 1985

Zoning Agenda: Meeting of December 3, 1985

The state of the s

JED:nr Enclosures



Maryland Department of Transportation

December 6, 1985

Re: Baltimore County

Item #196

Mr. A. Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

Att: James Dyer

Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc. Location: NE/S Reisterstown Road (Route 140) 152.15' SE of Old Court Road Existing Zoning: B.L. CSA Proposed Zoning: Var. to permit a sign setback of 2.5' instead of the required 6' setback and to permit a sign of 181.3 sq. ft. instead of the required 100 sq. ft or less Acres: 26,834 sq. ft.

Dear Mr. Dyer:

On review of the submittal for sign variance for Outdoor Advertising, the site plan has been forwarded to the State Highway Administration Beautification Section, C/O Morris Stein (659-1642) for all comments relative to

Very truly yours,

Charle Le Charles Lee, Chief Bureau of Engr. Access Permits

District 3rd

by: George Wittman

CL-GW;es

cc: J. Ogle M. Stein w/att.

> My telephone number is 301-659-1350 Teletypewriter for Impaired Hearing or Speech 383-7555 Baltimore Metro — 565-0451 D.C. Metro — 1-800-492-5062 Statewide Toll Free P.O. Box 717 / 707 North Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland 21203 - 0717

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

JANUARY 28, 1986

Re: Zoning Advisory Meeting of DECEMERS, 1985

Item + 196

Property Owner: CKOWN STATIONS, INC.

Location: NE/S REISTERSTOWN RD .152,15

SE OF OLD COURT ROPD The Division of Current Planning and Development has reviewed the subject petition and offers the following comments. The items checked below are (X)There are no site planning factors requiring comment.

)A County Review Group Meeting is required.
)A County Review Group meeting was held and the minutes will be forward by the Eureau of Public Services.

()This site is part of a larger tract; therfore it is defined as a subdivision. The plan must show the entire tract.)A record plat will be required and must be recorded prior to issuance of a building permit.)The access is not satisfactory.)The circulation on this site is not satisfactory.)The parking arrangement is not satisfactory. Parking calculations must be shown on the plan.)This property contains soils which are defined as wetlands, and development on these soils is prohibited.

Construction in or alteration of the floodplain is prohibited under the provisions of Section 22-98 of the Development Regulations.

()Development of this site may constitute a potential conflict with the Baltimore County Master Plan.

The amended Development Plan was approved by the Planning Board On
)Landscaping: Must comply with daltimore County Landscape Manual.
)The property is located in a deficient service area as defined by Bill 178-79. No building permit may be issued until a Reserve Capacity Use Certificate has been issued. The deficient service is

The property is located in a trarric area controlled by a "D" level intersection as defined by Sill 178-79, and as conditions change traffic capacity may become more limited. The Basic Services Areas are re-evaluated annually by the County Council.)Additional comments:

Eugene A. Bober Chief, Current Planning and Development BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING
TON'SON, MARYLAND 21234
494-3550

STEPHEN E. COLLINS DIRECTOR

January 7, 1986

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

> -ZAC- Meeting of November 3, 1985 Item No. Property Owner: Location: Existing Zoning:

Acres: District:

Proposed Zoning:

Dear Mr. Jablon:

MSF/bld

The department of Traffic Engineering has no comments for items number 190, 191, 193, 194, 195, (196) 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205,

BALTIMORE COUNTY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-2586
494-4500

Towson, Maryland 21204

Item No.: 196

PAUL H. REINCKE CHIEF

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning Baltimore County Office Building

Attention: Nick Commodari, Chairman Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

RE: Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc.

Location: NE/S Reisterstown Road, 152.15' SE of Old Court Road

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below marked with an "X" are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

() 1. Fire hydrants for the referenced property are required and shall be located at intervals or _____ feet along an approved road in accordance with Baltimore County Standards as published by the Department of Public Works.

() 2. A second means of vehicle access is required for the site.

() 3. The vehicle dead end condition shown at _____

EXCEEDS the maximum allowed by the Fire Department.

. () 4. The site shall be made to comply with all applicable parts of the Fire Prevention Code prior to occupancy or beginning of operation.

. () 5. The buildings and structures existing or proposed on the site shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 101 "Life Safety Code", 1976 edition prior to occupancy.

() 6. Site plans are approved, as drawn.

(X) 7. The Fire Prevention Bureau has no commence;" at this time.

REVIEWER: Catt Joseph Kelly 12-15-55 Approved:

Planting Group

Special Towns Special Inspection Division

BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS & LICENSES
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3610

December 23, 1985

TED ZALESKI, JR.

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Mr. Jablons Comments on Item # 196 Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting are as follows:

Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc. NE/S Reisterstown Road, 152.15' SE of Old Court Road

All structures shall conform to the Baltimore County Building Code as adopted by Council Bill #17-85, the Maryland Code for the Handicapped and Aged (A.M.S.I. #117-1 - 1980) and other applicable Codes and Standards. (B) A building and other miscellaneous pensits shall be required before the start of any construction.

C. Residentuals Two sets of construction drawings are required to file a parmit application. The seal of a registered in Maryland Architect or Engineer is/is not required on plans and technical data.

Commercial: Three sets of construction drawings sealed and signed by a registered in Maryland Architect or Engineer shall be required to file with a permit application. Reproduced seals are not acceptable.

E. All Use Groups except R-L Single Family Detached Dwellings require a minimum of 1 hour fire rating for exterior walls closer than 6'-O to an interior lot line. R-L Use Groups require a one hour wall if closer than 3'-O to an interior lot line. Any wall built on an interior lot line shall require a fire or party wall. See Table LO1, Section 1407, Section 1406.2 and Table 1402. No openings are permitted in an exterior wall within 3'-O of an interior lot line.

F. The structure does not appear to comply with Table 505 for permissable height/area. Reply to the requested variance by this office cannot be considered until the necessary data pertaining to height/area and construction type is provided. See Table 401 and 505 and have your Architect/Engineer contact this department. G. The requested variance appears to conflict with Section(s) _____, of the Baltimore County Building Code.

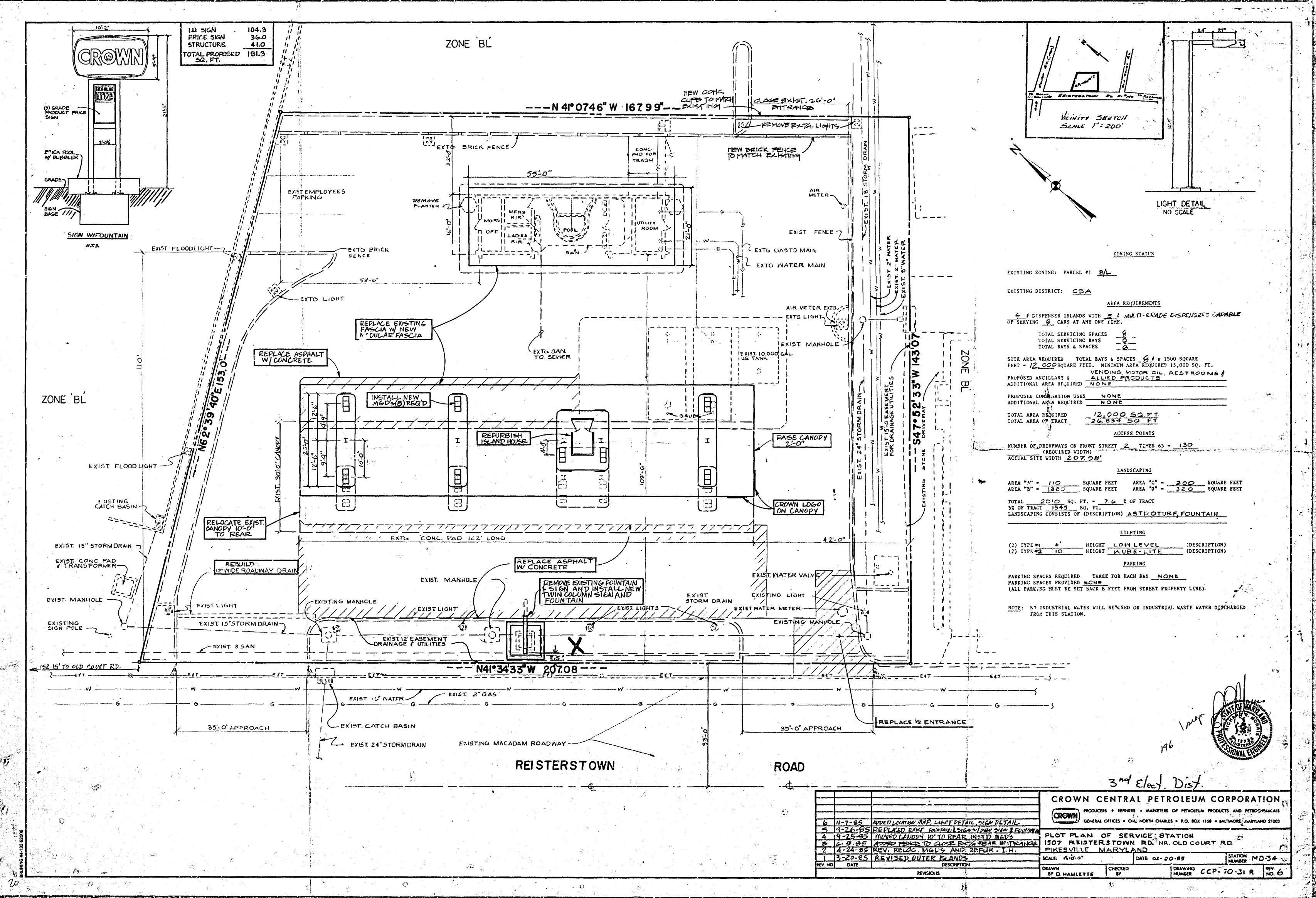
H. When filing for a required Change of Use/Compancy Permit, an alteration permit application shall also be filed along with three sets of acceptable construction plans indicating how the existing structure is to be altered in order to comply with the Code requirements for the new use. Maryland Architectural or Engineer seals are usually required. The change of Use Groupe are from Use to Use . See Section 312 of the Building Code.

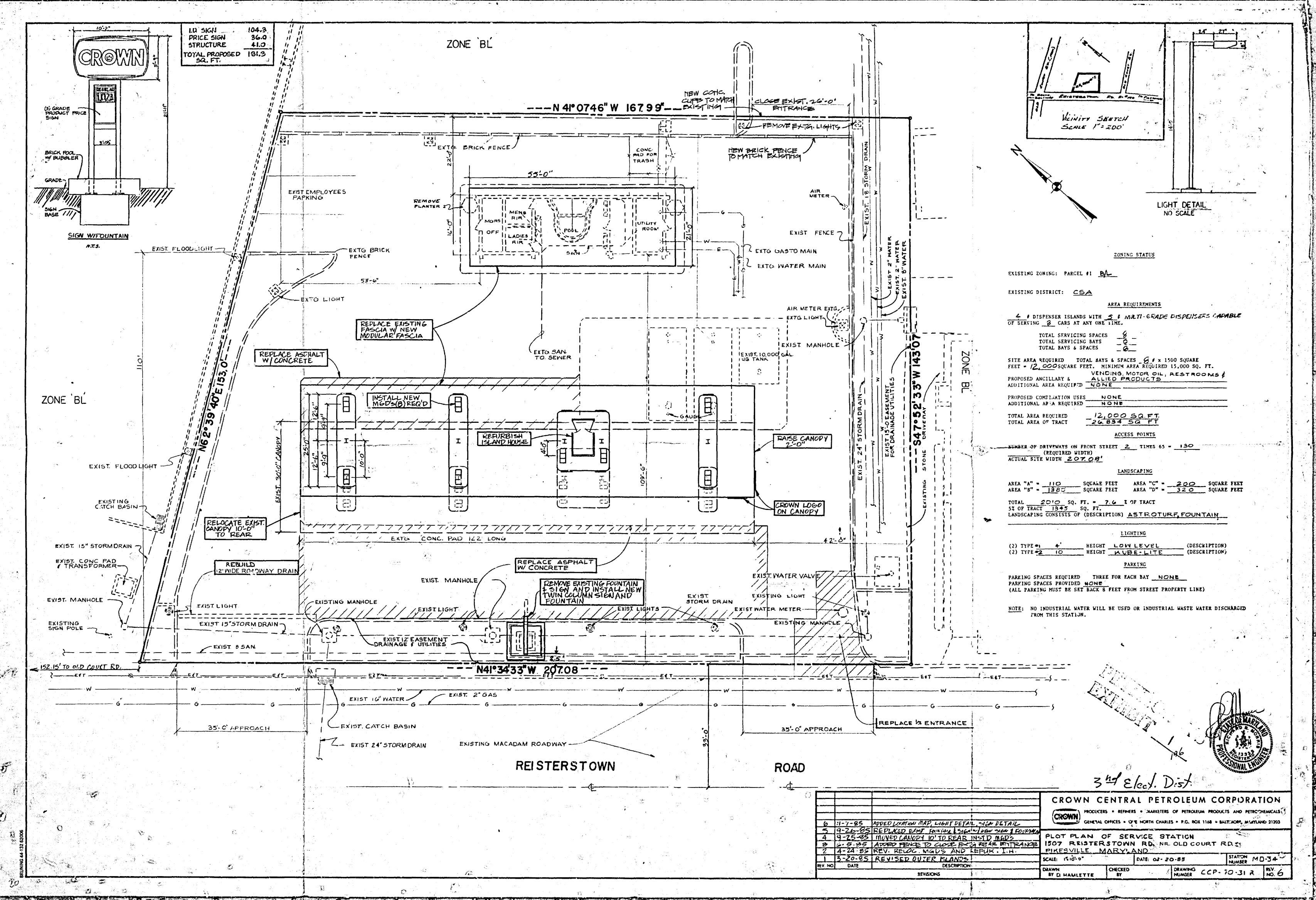
I. The proposed project appears to be located in a Flood Plain, Tidal/Riverine. Please see the attached copy of Section 516.0 of the Building Code as adopted by Bill #17-85. Sits plans shall show the correct elevations above see level for the lot and the finish floor levels including basement.

Comments: Separate permits are required for the various improvements.

K. These abbreviated comments reflect only on the information provided by the drawings submitted to the Office of Planning at 2 Zoning and are not intended to be construed as the full extent of any permit. If desired the applicant may obtain additional information by visiting Rose 123 of the lentry Tice full ding at 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, Haryland ZiZOL.

BY: C. E. Burnham, Chief Building Plans Review





#196 wa 86-318-A PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE TO THE ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY: The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section ____405_4_A_2_a__To_permit_a_sign_setback_of_2_5_ft__instead_ of the required 6' setback. 413.2 F to permit a sign of 181.3 sq. ft. instead of the required 100 sq. ft. or less. of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty) (1) Sign Setback: Less than 6' has been in same location for approximately DATE 1-15-8 years and we do not have the space to relocate it further back as it would impede the flow of traffic at the pumps 200 We are enlarging the price sign and the pole by 81.30 sq. ft. $\sqrt{}$ over the maximum allowed 100 sq. ft. for better visibility _____ to the public. We are not increasing the square footage of our Crown Logo. Property is to be posted and advertised as pre ribed by Zoning Regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law For Baltimore County. I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition Contract Purchaser: Legal Owner(s): Crown Stations. Inc. (Type or Print Name) (Type or Print Name) Signature Signature by W. k. Snyder, Vice President Address (Type or Print Name) City and State Signature Attorney for Petitioner J. Gregory Yawman P. O. Box 1168 539-7400 (Type or Print Name) Baltimore, Maryland 21203 P. O. Box 1168 Name, address and phone number of legal owner, contract purchaser or representative to be contacted Baltimo e. MD 21203 Bernard F. Mannion Attorney's Telephone No.: __539-7400 _____7310 Ritchie Hwy. 761-9243 \$\phi\text{RDERED By The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this __21st_____ day

-

ning Commissioner of Baltimore County.

Section 16.08.

including the entire face or faces.

of January 19 86, that the subject matter of this petition be advertised, as required by the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, in two newspapers of general circulation throughout performer County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing be had before the Zoning Companioner of Baltimore County in Room 106, County Office Building in Towson, Baltimore

countries on the 24th day of February 19.86, et 10:45 o'clock

A.2d 483 (1974); Scoville Soxy., Inc. v. Comptroller, 269 Md. 390, 306 A.2d 534 (1973); Height v. State, 225 Md. 251, 170 A.2d 212 (1961). Equally well settled is the principle that statutes are to be construed reasonably with reference to the purpose to be accomplished, Walker v. Montgomery County, 244 Md. 98, 223 A.2d 181 (1966), and in light of the evils or mischief sought to be remedied, Mitchell v. State, 115 Md. 360, 80 A.2d 1020 (1911); in other words, every statutory enactment must be 'considered in its entirety, and in the context of the purpose underlying [its] enactment, Giant of Md. v. State's Attorney, 267 Md. 501 at 509, 298 A.2d 427, at 432

(1973). Of course, a statute should be construed according to the ordinary and natural import of its language, since it is the language of the statute which constitutes the primary source for determining the legislative intent. Gresvenor v. Supervisor of Assess., 271 Md. 232, 315 A.2d 758 (1974); Height v. State, supra. Where there is no ambiguity or obscurity in the language of a statute, there is usually no need to look elsewhere to ascertain the intention of the Legislature. Purifoy v. Merc.-Safe Deposit & Trust, supra. Thus, where statutory language is plain and free from ambiguity and expresses a definite and sensible meaning, courts are not at liberty to disregard the natural import of words with a view towards making the statute express an intention which is different

from its plain meaning. Gatewood v. State, 244 Md. 609, 224 A.2d 677 (1966). On the other hand, as stated in Maguire v. State, 192 Md. 615, 623, 65 A.2d 299, 302 (1949), [a]dherence to the meaning of words does not require or permit isolation of words from their context *** [since] the meaning of the plainest words in a statute may be controlled by the context... In construing statutes, therefore, results that are unreasonable, illogical or inconsistent with common sense should be avoided whenever possibly consistent with the statutory language, with the real legislative intention prevailing over the intention indicated by the literal meaning. B. F. Saul Co. v. West End Park, 250 Md. 707, 246 A.2d 591 (1968); Sanza v. Md. Board of Censors, 245 Md. 319, 226

In applying these principles to the BCZR, particularly Section 413.2, the

A.2d 317 (1967); Height v. State, supra.

IN RE: PETITIONS ZONING VARIANCES BEFORE THE Crown Stations, Inc., ZONING COMMISSIONER Petitioner OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Case Nos. 86-317-A, 86-318-A,

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

* * * * * * * * * * *

and 86-319-A

The Petitioner herein requests variances to permit a sign setback from a street right of way of 2 1/2 feet in Case No. 86-317-A, 2 1/2 feet in Case No. 86-318-A, and 1 foot in Case No. 86-319-A instead of the required 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the permitted 100 square feet in each of the cases, as more particularly described on Petitioner's Exhibits 1 in each case.

Inasmuch as the requested variances and the facts surrounding each request are similar, or identical, the three Petitions referenced above have been combined for the purpose of this Order.

The Petitioner, by Vernon Mannion, its Real Estate Representative, appeared and was represented by Counsel. George Coppinger, a dealer at one of the sites, also appeared on behalf of the Petitioner. Alice LeGrand, representing the Reisterstown-Owings Mills-Glyndon Coordinating Council, and Mary Ginn and Kay Turner, representing The Alliance of Baltimore County Community uls, Inc., appeared in opposition to Case No. 86-319-A. They were not opposed to Case Nos. 86-317-A and 86-318-A.

estimony indicated that the Petitioner is requesting permission to replace existing signs at three locations, i.e., Loch Raven Boulevard and Yakoni Road (Case No. 86-317-A), Reisterstown and Old Court Roads (Case No.

of all of the provisions concerning signs so that the several parts of those

regulations are given their intended effect. Moreover, the relationship

between those various provisions regulating signs must be reconciled as a

whole. See Smith, supra; Bowie Vol. Fire Depart. & Rescue Squad, Inc. v.

Bd. of County Commissioners, 255 Md. 381; Anderson, American Law of Zoning,

ered as one and that is limited to an identification sign for a shopping

center or other interpreted group of stores or commercial buildings. The

introductory language of Section 413.2 does not provide the right to treat all

business signs alike. The language is not all inclusive nor all permissive.

It provides a preamble to the section's intent and conditions any permission

to place a business sign of a particular size in only those business or

industrial zones permitted in subsequent subsections. If all of the subpara-

graphs of Section 413.2 are read and their intent interpreted as a whole, any

such interpretation must conclude that the Baltimore County Council intended

each face of a sign to be counted, except for shopping center identification

signs. Section 413.5.a, BCZR, buttresses this clear and unequivocal reading,

i.e., the size of any sign is computed by determining its surface area

phrase shall be rendered surplusage, superfluous, meaningless or nugatory."

Supervisor v. Southgate Harbor, 279 Md. 586 (1977). If all multiple-faced

busings signs were to be considered as one, the language of Section 413.2.e

would be meaningless, or at the very least, superfluous.

An ordinance should be construed "so that no word, clause, sentence, or

Only Section 413.2.e, BCZR, permits a multiple-faced sign to be consid-

86-318-A, and Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads (Case No. 86-319-A), all zoned B.L. Presently, one pylon bearing an identification (ID) sign with the familiar Crown logo and price signs attached below has existed at each location for many years. At Loch Raven Boulevard, the existing sign is 2 1/2 feet from the street right of way and measures approximately 141 square feet counting both sides. The ID sign measures approximately 104 square feet and the price sign measures 37 square feet. At Reisterstown and Old Court Roads, the existing sign is also located 2 1/2 feet from the street right of way and measures 104 square feet counting both sides. The price signs at this location are placed on a separate pylon. At Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads, the sign is located 1 foot from the right of way and measures approximately 141 square feet, including the ID and price signs.

The Petitioner proposes to replace these signs with a uniform sign bearing the Crown ID on the top of two pylons within which will be a panel identifying the gasoline prices. The size of the sign will be 181.3 square feet, which includes both sides of the ID sign, the price box, and the structure. The only difference among the three signs is that the one at Reisterstown and Old Court Roads will be placed into a 10' x 10' brick fountain.

It is clear that the distances of the signs to the right-of-way lines are nonconforming. At the time the existing signs were erected, the long-standing policy of the Zoning Commissioner was to count all multiple-sided signs as one side enly for the purpose of computing the permitted 100 square feet for other busings signs. Indeed, if this latter policy had not been changed in In Re: C-F Property Partnership, Case No. 85-113-SPHA, November 5, 1984, wherein it was decided by the Zoning Commissioner that this policy was illegal, the Petitioner would be able to erect these signs without the need for variances.

For many years, as indicated, the policy permitted both sides of a multiple-faced business sign to be computed as one for the purpose of determining the size permitted. If a business sign such as the multiplefaced, free-standing sign proposed here was computed to be 98 square feet on each side, past policy would have counted only one side. Section 413.2.f, BCZR, permits other business signs if limited to a total area of 100 square feet, and therefore, a sign such as described above would be permitted as a

matter or right without the need for a variance. Of course, if both sides

were counted for a total of 196 square feet, a variance would be required.

This interpretation does not comport to either the language or the intent of the BCZR. By their inherent nature, policies facilitate and improve the implementation of procedures, but they are equally subject to alteration, modification, or revision in accordance with the authority under which they are initially adopted. They may be used to interpret and/or to construe the law but cannot supplant or contradict the law. Official administrative interpretations of statutes in the form of policy that have long-continued and unvaried application should not be disregarded except for the strongest reason. Hofmeister v. Frank Realty Co., 373 A.2d 273, 281 (1977). As long as the rules and regulations adopted by the administrative official are reasonable and consistent with the statute, they should be applied.

The basic principles of statutory construction were comprehensively set out by the Court of Appeals in State v. Fabritz, 276 Md. 416 (1975), cert. denied, 425 U.S. 942 (1976):

Md. #4 (1972).

Farber's, Inc. v. Comptroller of the Treasury of the State of Maryland, 266

The cardinal rule in the construction of statutes is to effectuate the real and actual intention of the Legislature. Purifoy v. Merc. Safe Del. & Trust, 273 Md. 58, 327

multiple-faced business signs as one should be disregarded for the strongest and most urgent of reasons, i.e., the policy conflicts with the plain meaning of the statute. Smith v. Higinbothom, 187 Md. 115. If after computation, the two sides of the multiple-faced business sign exceed the permitted size as delineated by law, a variance shall be required.

The Petitioner seeks relief from Sections 405.4.A.2.a and 413.2.f. pursuant to Section 307, BCZR.

The requested increase is not excessive, but very reasonable. Indeed, the height of the proposed signs, i.e., 21 feet 11 inches is approximately the same as the existing ones. There will be no practical difference in size between the old and the new signs. In fact, the proposed signage is the same. The increase in the area requested is because the structure is now computed in the area of the sign, not the sign panels only.

There is one exception. The proposed change at Reisterstown and Straw Hat Roads will create a problem inasmuch as the existing sign base is only 1 foot from the right of way of Reisterstown Road. The sign's pylon is placed at a 45 degree angle away from the road. Because of this, the sign is not as close to the road as the base. A change to the two pylon structure will negate this, and its close proximity to a major road could, in this Commissioner's view, cause a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of the community. This problem does not exist at the other two locations, and indead, the Protestants recognize this and do not object to those signs.

As for the setbacks, it is a long-standing policy to require the Petition to bring up to current standards all deficient setbacks when requesting other Wariances.

area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning

property. McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the petitioner must meet the following:

- 1. whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2. whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief;
- 3. whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28 (1974).

It is clear from the testimony that if the variances were granted, such use as proposed would not be contrary to the spirit of the BCZR and would not result in substantial detriment to the public good.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, it is clear that a practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship would result if the instant variances were not granted. It has been established that the requirement from which the Petitioner seeks relief would unduly restrict the use of the land due to the special conditions unique to this particular parcel. In addition, the variances requested will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the requested variances should be granted.

merefore, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this 100 day of March, 1986, that the Petitions for Zoning Variances to sign setbacks of 2 1/2 feet from street rights of way instead of the required 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the

- 7 -

he language of Section 413.2 is clear and unambiguous; therefore, the

tanding and customary application of the policy which considers all

- 5 -

- 6 -

PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCES permitted 100 square feet in Case Nos. 86-317-A and 86-318-A be and are hereby 3rd Election District RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCES : BEFCRE THE ZONING COMMISSIONER Beginning NE/S of Reisterstown CRANTED from and after the date of this Order. OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Rd., 152.15' SE of Old Court : Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.) It is FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Zoning Variances to permit a 3rd District ZONING DESCRIPTION sign setback of 1 foot from a street right of way instead of the required CROWN STATIONS, INC., Petitioners Case No. 86-318-A Beginning at Northeast Side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet Southeast of Old Court Road (1507 Reisterstown Road) Crown MD-34 6 feet and other business signs of 181.3 square feet instead of the permitted I OCATION: ::::::: 100 square feet in Case No. 86-319-A be held SUB CURIA pending further infor-Beginning on the northeast side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet ENTRY OF APPEARANCE Monday, February 24, 1986, at 10:45 a.m. DATE AND TIME: southeast of Old Court Road. Mence the four following courses and distances mation from the Petitioner. PUBLIC HEARING: Room 106, County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, 1. N. 62^O 39' 40" E. 153.0 feet Please enter the appearance of the People's Counse, in the Towson, Maryland 2. S. 41° 07' 46" E. 167.99 feet above-captioned matter. Notices should be sent of any hearing dates The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing: 3. S. 47^o 52' 33" W. 143.07 feet or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary 4. On the northeast side of Reisterstown Road in a northwest direction Baltimore County Petition for Zoning Variances to permit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the required 6 feet and to permit a sign of 181.3 square feet in lieu N. 41° 34' 33" W. 207.08 feet. To the place of beginning. or final Order. Containing 26.884 square feet in the 3rd Election District. Also known as of the permitted 100 square feet. cc: Andrew LaPayowker, Esquire 1507 Reisterstown Road. Mrs. Mary Ginn Phyllis Cole Friedman Mrs. Alice LeGrand People's Counsel for Baltimore County People's Counsel umenna Peter Max Zimmerman Deputy People's Counsel Room 223, Court House Being the property of <u>Crown Stations, Inc.</u>, as shown on plat plan filed with the Zoning Office. Towson, MD 21204 494-2188 In the event that this Petition(s) is granted, a building permit may be issued within the thirty (30) day appeal period. The Zoning Commissioner will, however, entertain any request for a stay of the issuance of said permit during this period for good cause shown. Such request must be received in writing by the date of the I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 31st day of January, 1986, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to J. Gregory Yawman, hearing set above or made at the hearing. Esquire, P. O. Box 1168, Baltimore, MD 21203, Attorney for Petitioner. BY ORDER OF ARNOLD JABLON ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Peter Max Zirmerman -8-January 24, 1986 J. Gregory Ya. an, Esquire Post Office Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203 CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION VARIANCES

3rd Election District BALTIMORE COUNTY
OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3353 _____ BALTIMORE COUPTY OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING LOCATION: Beginning at North-east Side of Reisterstown Road, 152.15 feet Southerst of Old Court Road (1507 Reisterst twa Road) DATE AND TIME: Monday, Febru-ary 24, 1986. ar 2046. TOWSON, MD., February 6 County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was ary 24, 1986, at 10:45 a.m.
PUBLIC HEARING: Room 106,
County Office Building, 111 W
Chesapeake Avenue, Towson,
Maryland NOTICE OF HEARING ARNOLD JABLON ZONING COMMISSIONER JEAN M. H. JUNG DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper printed Your petition has been received and accepted for filing this to day of January, 1986. RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCES
Beg. @ NE/S of Reisterstown Rd., 152.15' SE
of Old Court Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.)
3rd Election District
Crown Stations, Inc. - Petitioner
Case No. 86-318-A The Zoning Commissioner of Balti-more County, by sutherity of the Zon-ing Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing: Petition for Zoning Variances to per-mit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the required 6 feet and research and published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., appearing on February 18, 1986 February 6 19 86 mit a sign setback of 2.5 feet in lieu of the requised 6 feet and to permit a sign of 181.3 square feet in lieu of the permitted 100 aquare feet,

Being the property of Crown Stations, Inc., or shown on plet plan filed with the Zousing Office.

In the event that this Petition(s) is granted, a familding permit may be insued within the thirty (30) day appeal period. The Zousing sCommissioner will, however, sententials may request for a stay of the insuance of said permit during this period for good cause shown. Such request must be received in writing by the date of the hearing set above or rande at the hearing.

By Order Of J. Gregory Yawman, Esquire Post Office Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203 THE JEFFERSONIAN, Zoning Commissioner Re: Petition for Zoning Variances

Beg. @ NE/S of Reisterstown Rd., 152.15 SE

of Old Court Rd. (1507 Reisterstown Rd.) - 201 Election District

Crown Stations, Inc. - Petitioner

Case No. 86-318-A Monday, February 24, 1986 18 Venetali James E. Dyer Petitioner Crown Stations, Inc. Chairman, Zoning Mans Advisory Committee PLACE: Room 106, County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake Attorney J. Gregory Yasman, Esquire Publisher Avenue, Towson, Maryland Per or mode at tog meaning.
By Order Of
ARNOLD JABLON,
Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County
Feb. 6. Dear Mr. Yawmani Cost of Advertising 24.75 This is to advise you that \$57.49 is due for advertising and posting of the above property. This fee must be paid before an NEWSPAPERS OF MARTLAND, INC.

2 STATE SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986

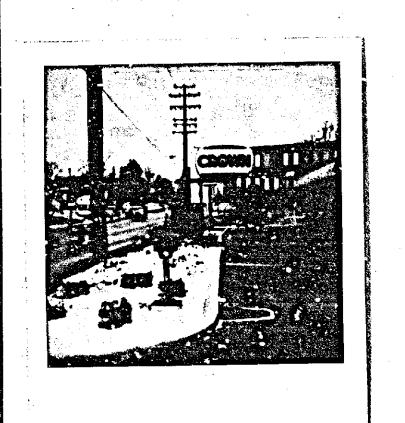
ENDER SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986

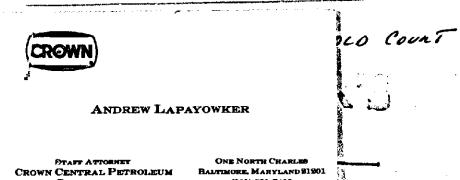
ENDER SOURCE STREET, Md., Feb., 6, 1986 THIS FEE MUST BE PAID AND THE ZONING SIGN AND POST RETURNED ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING OR THE ORDER SHALL NOT BE ISSUED. Y that the annexed Req.# L84192 P.O.# 73295 Do <u>not</u> remove sign from property from the time it is placed by this office until the day of the hearing itself. 25 1) successive weeks/days previous No. 012374 BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND No. 018506 re County, Maryland, and remit of February 1986 in the BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION
MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT inty Times, a daily newspaper published CERTIFICATE OF POSTING 01-615-000 in Westminster, Carroll County, Maryland. vn News, a weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Maryland. 100.00 Times, a weekly newspaper published Date of Posting Fib-5-1986 in Baltimore County, Maryland. Warrance NITY NEWSPAPERS OF MARYLAND, INC. Re (10- 16- 317-11 (86-318-11) 186-319-A Positioner: Crown Stations INC.

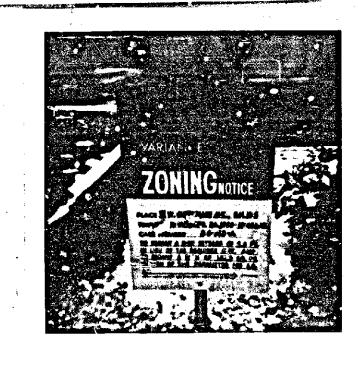
Location of property: NE 15 of Resolution Road 157 15

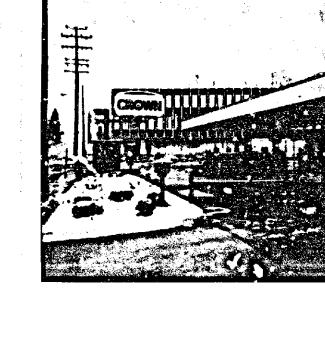
SE M Old Court Flat (1507 Rusters Town Boal) Variance #1196 Rustons on Rd. B B B B B B B B B B + * * * 1384 B ta 325 E F ocation of Signe NE ville of Resolution IP and VALIDATION OR SIGNATURE OF CASHIEL

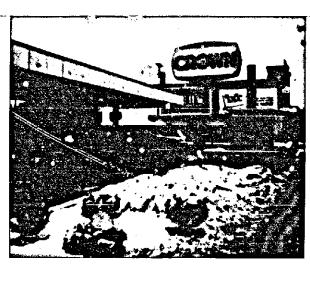
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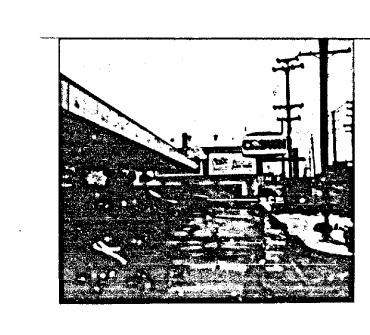












BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Arnold Jablen TO Zoning Commissioner January 31, 1986 Norman E. Gerber, AICP, Director FROM Office of Planning and Zoning

SURJECT Zoning Petitions No. 86-317-A, 86-318-A and 86-319-A

If the sign is to be placed on the existing base, this office is not concerned with the setback variance; if a new base is to be poured, it could and should be set further back from the property line. As to the variance to sign size, this office is opposed. If

better visibility to the phulic satisfies the "unreasonable hardship"

criterion, then perhaps regulations governing sign size are superfluous.

NEG:JGH:slm

BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING PLANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 29, 1986

COUNTY OFFICE BLDG. 111 W. Chesapeake Ave. Towson, Maryland 21204

Bureau of

Industrial Development

Engineering

J. Gregory Yawman, Esquire P. O. Box 1168 Baltimore, Maryland 21203

RE: Item No. 196 - Case No. 86-318-A Petitioner - Crown Stations, Inc. Variance Petition

Dear Mr. Yawman:

Department of The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee has reviewed the plans submitted with the above-referenced petition. The following comments are State Roads Commissi not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action re-Bureau of Fire Prevention quested, but to assure that all parties are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the development plans that may have a bearing Health Department on this case. The Director of Planning may file a written report with the Zoning Commissioner with recommendations as to the suitability of Project Planning Building Department the requested zoning. Board of Education

Enclosed are all comments submitted from the members of the Committee at this time that offer or request information on your petition. If similar comments from the remaining members are received, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on the date of the enclosed filing certificate and a hearing scheduled accordingly.

> Very truly yours, Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

> > December 17, 1985

Zoning Agenda: Meeting of December 3, 1985

The state of the s

JED:nr Enclosures



Maryland Department of Transportation

December 6, 1985

Re: Baltimore County

Item #196

Mr. A. Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

Att: James Dyer

Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc. Location: NE/S Reisterstown Road (Route 140) 152.15' SE of Old Court Road Existing Zoning: B.L. CSA Proposed Zoning: Var. to permit a sign setback of 2.5' instead of the required 6' setback and to permit a sign of 181.3 sq. ft. instead of the required 100 sq. ft or less Acres: 26,834 sq. ft. District 3rd

Dear Mr. Dyer:

On review of the submittal for sign variance for Outdoor Advertising, the site plan has been forwarded to the State Highway Administration Beautification Section, C/O Morris Stein (659-1642) for all comments relative to

Very truly yours,

Charle Le Charles Lee, Chief Bureau of Engr. Access Permits

by: George Wittman

CL-GW;es

cc: J. Ogle M. Stein w/att.

> My telephone number is 301-659-1350 Teletypewriter for Impaired Hearing or Speech 383-7555 Baltimore Metro — 565-0451 D.C. Metro — 1-800-492-5062 Statewide Toll Free P.O. Box 717 / 707 North Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland 21203 - 0717

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

JANUARY 28, 1986

Re: Zoning Advisory Meeting of DECEMERS, 1985

Item + 196

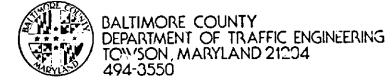
Property Owner: CKOWN STATIONS, INC.

Location: NE/S REISTERSTOWN RD .152,15

SE OF OLD COURT ROPD The Division of Current Planning and Development has reviewed the subject petition and offers the following comments. The items checked below are

> (X)There are no site planning factors requiring comment.)A County Review Group Meeting is required.
>)A County Review Group meeting was held and the minutes will be forward by the Eureau of Public Services.
>
> ()This site is part of a larger tract; therfore it is defined as a subdivision. The plan must show the entire tract.)A record plat will be required and must be recorded prior to issuance of a building permit.)The access is not satisfactory.)The circulation on this site is not satisfactory.)The parking arrangement is not satisfactory. Parking calculations must be shown on the plan.)This property contains soils which are defined as wetlands, and development on these soils is prohibited.
>
> Construction in or alteration of the floodplain is prohibited under the provisions of Section 22-98 of the Development Regulations.
>
> ()Development of this site may constitute a potential conflict with the Baltimore County Master Plan.
>
> The amended Development Plan was approved by the Planning Board On
>)Landscaping: Must comply with daltimore County Landscape Manual.
>)The property is located in a deficient service area as defined by Bill 178-79. No building permit may be issued until a Reserve Capacity Use Certificate has been issued. The deficient service is
>
> The property is located in a trarric area controlled by a "D" level intersection as defined by Sill 178-79, and as conditions change traffic capacity may become more limited. The Basic Services Areas are re-evaluated annually by the County Council.

Eugene A. Bober Chief, Current Planning and Development



STEPHEN E. COLLINS DIRECTOR

January 7, 1986

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner County Office Building Towson, Maryland 21204

> -ZAC- Meeting of November 3, 1985 Property Owner:

Location: Existing Zoning: Proposed Zoning:

Acres: District:

Item No.

Dear Mr. Jablon:

The department of Traffic Engineering has no comments for items number 190, 191, 193, 194, 195, (196) 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205,

MSF/bld



PAUL H. REINCKE CHIEF

Mr. Arnold Jablon Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning Baltimore County Office Building

Item No.: 196

Towson, Maryland 21204 Attention: Nick Commodari, Chairman

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee RE: Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc.

Location: NE/S Reisterstown Road, 152.15' SE of Old Court Road

Gentlemen: Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this

Bureau and the comments below marked with an "X" are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property. () 1. Fire hydrants for the referenced property are required and shall be

located at intervals or _____ feet along an approved road in accordance with Baltimore County Standards as published by the Department of Public Works.

() 2. A second means of vehicle access is required for the site.

() 3. The vehicle dead end condition shown at _____

EXCEEDS the maximum allowed by the Fire Department.

. () 4. The site shall be made to comply with all applicable parts of the Fire Prevention Code prior to occupancy or beginning of operation.

. () 5. The buildings and structures existing or proposed on the site shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 101 "Life Safety Code", 1976 edition prior to occupancy.

() 6. Site plans are approved, as drawn.

(X) 7. The Fire Prevention Bureau has no commence;" at this time.

REVIEWER: Catt Joseph Kelly 12-15-55 Approved:

Planting Group

Special Towns Special Inspection Division

BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS & LICENSES
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3610

December 23, 1985

TED ZALESKI, JR.

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Mr. Jablons Comments on Item # 196 Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting are as follows:

Property Owner: Crown Stations, Inc. NE/S Reisterstown Road, 152.15' SE of Old Court Road

All structures shall conform to the Baltimore County Building Code as adopted by Council Bill #17-85, the Maryland Code for the Handicapped and Aged (A.M.S.I. #117-1 - 1980) and other applicable Codes and Standards.

(B) A building and other miscellaneous pensits shall be required before the start of any construction. C. Residentuals Two sets of construction drawings are required to file a parmit application. The seal of a registered in Maryland Architect or Engineer is/is not required on plans and technical data.

Commercial: Three sets of construction drawings sealed and signed by a registered in Maryland Architect or Engineer shall be required to file with a permit application. Reproduced seals are not acceptable.

E. All Use Groups except R-L Single Family Detached Dwellings require a minimum of 1 hour fire rating for exterior walls closer than 6'-O to an interior lot line. R-L Use Groups require a one hour wall if closer than 3'-O to an interior lot line. Any wall built on an interior lot line shall require a fire or party wall. See Table LO1, Section 1407, Section 1406.2 and Table 1402. No openings are permitted in an exterior wall within 3'-O of an interior lot line.

F. The structure does not appear to comply with Table 505 for permissable height/area. Reply to the requested variance by this office cannot be considered until the necessary data pertaining to height/area and construction type is provided. See Table 401 and 505 and have your Architect/Engineer contact this department.

G. The requested variance appears to conflict with Section(s) _____, of the Baltimore County Building Code.

H. When filing for a required Change of Use/Compancy Permit, an alteration permit application shall also be filed along with three sets of acceptable construction plans indicating how the existing structure is to be altered in order to comply with the Code requirements for the new use. Maryland Architectural or Engineer seals are usually required. The change of Use Groupe are from Use to Use . See Section 312 of the Building Code. I. The proposed project appears to be located in a Flood Plain, Tidal/Riverine. Please see the attached copy of Section 516.0 of the Building Code as adopted by Bill #17-85. Sits plans shall show the correct elevations above see level for the lot and the finish floor levels including basement.

Comments: Separate permits are required for the various improvements.

K. These abbreviated comments reflect only on the information provided by the drawings submitted to the Office of Planning at 2 Zoning and are not intended to be construed as the full extent of any permit. If desired the applicant may obtain additional information by visiting Rose 123 of the lentry Tice full ding at 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, Haryland ZiZOL.

BY: C. E. Burnham, Chief Building Plans Review

)Additional comments:

